

REMARKS

This submission accompanies the filing of an RCE for the above identified application and is in response to the issuance of a Decision on Appeal by the Board of Appeal. The above listing of the claims supersedes any previous listing. Favorable reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claim amendments/Status

In this response, claim 1 is amended via the inclusion of the subject matter of claims 20 and 29; claim 30 is amended via the inclusion of the subject matter of claims 1, 20 and 21; and claims 31 is amended via the inclusion of claim the subject matter of claim 32. Claims 20, 21, 29 and 32 are cancelled.

New claims 33-39 have been added. These claims find support in the originally filed specification. See paragraph [0011], [0012], [0013], [0014] – [0024], [0037], [0040] and Figs. 1-6 of the corresponding United States Patent Application No. 20040188570.

These new claims are deemed to be allowable over the cited art inasmuch as they set forth subject matter which is neither disclosed in, nor suggested by said art.

Claims 1, 12-19, 22-28, 30-31 and 33-39 are therefore pending in this application.

Inasmuch as the rejection of claims 29, 30 and 32 were reversed by the Board of Appeals, it is respectfully submitted that, at the very least, the above-mentioned amendments are such as to advance the prosecution of this application and to effectively place the pending claims in condition for allowance which is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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